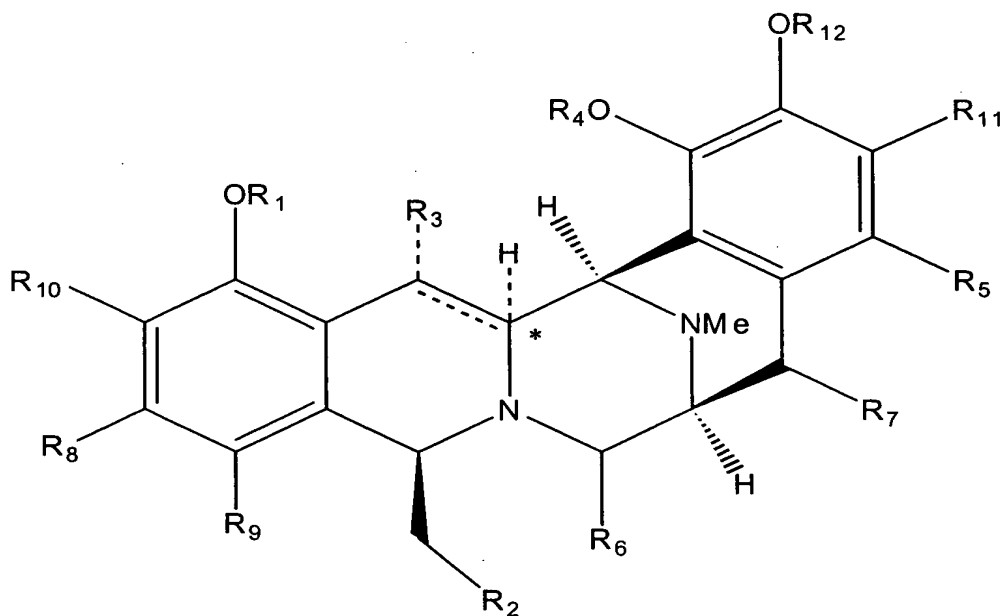


COMPOUNDS OF THE

Abstract of the Invention

Compounds of the saframycin-ecteinascidin series with cytotoxic properties having the following general formula, their uses and synthesis, are disclosed:



wherein R₁ and R₄ is H, a C₁ to C₄ alkyl group, or an acyl group;

wherein R₂ is an ether, ester, amide, or a phthalimide group;

wherein R_3 is $=O$, OH , an ether group, an acyl group such as $OC(O)Me$, $OC(O)Bn$ and $OC(O)Et$, or a sulfide group; wherein R_5 is H , halogen, OH , an ether group, an acyl group, or an amide group; wherein R_6 is $=O$, OH , OCH_3 , CN , or an acyloxy group; wherein R_7 , is $=O$, OH , halogen, an ether group, or an acyl group; wherein R_8 and R_9 are independently H , CH_3 , OCH_3 , OC_2H_5 , CF_3 , halogen such as Br and F , or R_8 and R_9 are joined together as a methylenedioxy group, or other five or six membered ring; wherein R_{10} and R_{11} are independently CH_3 , OCH_3 , OC_2H_5 , SCH_3 , or SC_2H_5 ; wherein R_{12} is H , a C_1 to C_4 alkyl group, or an

acyl group; and wherein the chiral center marked * has the R or the S configuration.